

PATENT

Case Docket No. HARD1.015A  
Date: February 19, 2004

17314

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Merkley et al.  
Appl. No. : 09/970,389  
Filed : October 2, 2001  
For : METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR REDUCING IMPURITIES  
IN CELLULOSE FIBERS FOR  
MANUFACTURE OF FIBER  
REINFORCED CEMENT  
COMPOSITE MATERIALS  
Examiner : Marc S. Alvo  
Group Art Unit : 1731

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

February 20, 2004

(Date)

Linda H. Liu, Reg. No. 51,240

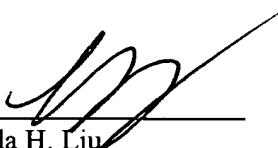
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

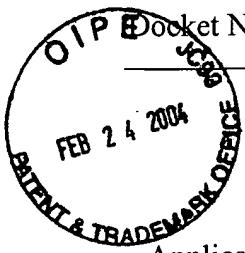
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement.
- (X) A PTO Form 1449 with sixteen (16) references.
- (X) A check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the above fee is enclosed.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

  
Linda H. Liu  
Registration No. 51,240  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995  
(909) 781-9231



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant : Merkley et al.  
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MATERIAL  
Examiner : Marc S. Alvo  
Group Art Unit : 1731

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is form PTO-1449 listing sixteen (16) references that are also enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) before the mailing date of a final action and before the mailing of a Notice of Allowance. This Statement is accompanied by the fees set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or to credit any overpayment to Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 2/19/2004

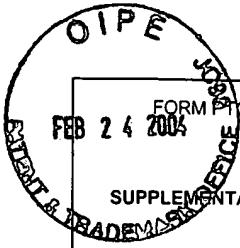
By: 

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FORM PTO-1449 FEB 24 2004	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. HARD1.015A	APPLICATION NO. 09/970,389
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)		APPLICANT Merkley et al.	
		FILING DATE October 2, 2001	GROUP 1731

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE)
		2,156,308	05/02/39	Charles H. Schuh			
		2,156,311	05/02/39	Charles H. Schuh			
		4,138,313	02/06/79	Hillstrom et al.			
		4,258,090	03/24/81	Dino S. Moraru			
		4,457,785	07/03/84	Hsu et al.			
		4,647,589	03/03/87	Frederick W. Valone			
		2002/0007926 A1	01/24/02	Jewell et al.			
		2002/0051892 A1	05/02/02	Laks et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES      NO
		3 601 736	07/23/87	Germany			X
		4 316 666	12/08/94	Germany			X
		1 003 850	09/08/65	Great Britian			
		1 604 910	12/16/81	Great Britian			
		2 307 425	05/28/97	Great Britian			
		2 611 432	09/09/88	France			X
		2001 240458	09/04/01	Japan			X
		WO 01/8166 A2	11/01/01	PCT			

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)	

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: INITIAL IF CITATION CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP 609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED, INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.	